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Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A self-contained power disruption alert device, comprising:
a housing with a plurality of male conductors extending outwardly therefrom, the male conductors sized and configured to enter an electrical wall outlet to be in electrical communication therewith;
an electronic circuit in the housing and configured to respond to a power disruption in the electrical wall outlet;
a battery receiving space disposed on and/or in the housing and sized and configured to hold a battery to be in electrical communication with the electronic circuit to power the electronic circuit; and
a speaker in communication with the electronic circuit, wherein, in operation, an audible alert is output by the speaker when power to the electrical wall outlet is disrupted, and wherein the device is self-contained, wherein the device is a single-use device that is disposable after a single power disruption.
2. (Currently Amended) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 1, in combination with a releaseably mountable battery positioned in the battery receiving space [[on/in the housing]] in electrical communication with the electronic circuit to power the electronic circuit when power to the electrical wall outlet is disrupted.
3. (Original) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 1, wherein the housing is configured to be portable and useable in different wall outlets as desired by a user.
4. (Original) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 1, wherein the device is devoid of externally extending wires and wireless signal transmitters and generates the audible alert signal only locally.

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5. (Original) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 1, further comprising a female electrical outlet disposed on the housing, the female electrical outlet sized and configured to receive male conductors therein and electrically connect the male conductors to the wall electrical outlet.

6. (Original) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 1, further comprising a timer in communication with the electronic circuit configured for determining a duration of the power disruption.

7. (Original) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 6, further comprising an externally viewable display for providing a numerical value of the duration of the power disruption.

8. (Original) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 7, wherein the display is a digital display configured to output a time measure of the power disruption duration in hours and minutes.

9. (Original) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 7, wherein the display is a digital display configured to output the power disruption duration in days, hours and minutes.

10. (Currently Amended) A power disruption alert device according to Claim ~~[[7]]~~12, further comprising a manual externally accessible reset configured to allow a user to clear ~~[[the]]~~a timer and/or display for a subsequent power disruption.

11. (Original) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 10, wherein the electronic circuit comprises a processor that provides the timer that is in communication with the display.

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12. (Currently Amended) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 1,
A self-contained power disruption alert device, comprising:
a housing with a plurality of male conductors extending outwardly therefrom, the
male conductors sized and configured to enter an electrical wall outlet to be in electrical
communication therewith;
an electronic circuit in the housing and configured to respond to a power disruption in the
electrical wall outlet;
a battery receiving space disposed on and/or in the housing and sized and configured
to hold a battery to be in electrical communication with the electronic circuit to power the
electronic circuit; and
a speaker in communication with the transmitting a pre-recorded voice message
electronic circuit, wherein, in operation, the speaker is configured to output an audible pre-
recorded voice message alert when power to the electrical wall outlet is disrupted.
~~wherein, in operation, the device is configured to output a pre-recorded voice message~~

13. (Currently Amended) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 12
[[1]], wherein the electronic circuit comprises a microprocessor configured with electronic
memory having at least one prerecorded message that is configured to be transmitted during a
power disruption.

14. (Original) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 1, further
comprising a visual alert device in communication with the electronic circuit and positioned
on the housing so as to be externally visible during operation, the visual alert is configured to
visually indicate when a power disruption occurs.

15. (Original) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 1, wherein the
visual alert device comprises a light emitting diode, and wherein the device is configured to
delay generating the audible alert until power is disrupted for greater than a predetermined
time.

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16. (Original) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 15, wherein the housing has a forward surface with a height and width defining a surface area that is less than about 14 in².

17. (Original) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 15, wherein the housing has a forward surface with a height and width, each being less than about 3 inches, and a depth of less than about 1 inch.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~A power disruption alert device according to Claim 17,~~
A self-contained power disruption alert device, comprising:
a housing with a plurality of male conductors extending outwardly therefrom, the
male conductors sized and configured to enter an electrical wall outlet to be in electrical
communication therewith;
an electronic circuit in the housing and configured to respond to a power disruption in
the electrical wall outlet;
a battery receiving space disposed on and/or in the housing and sized and configured
to hold a battery to be in electrical communication with the electronic circuit to power the
electronic circuit; and
a speaker in communication with the electronic circuit, wherein, in operation, an
audible alert is output by the speaker when power to the electrical wall outlet is disrupted,
wherein the device is self-contained, wherein the housing has a forward surface with a
height and width defining a surface area that is less than about 14 in²,
wherein the device without a battery weighs less than about 8 ounces.

19. (Original) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 18, wherein the device with a battery weighs less than about 8 ounces.

20. (Original) A power disruption alert device according to Claim 1, wherein the

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device is configured to connect to a wall panel outlet having a GFI circuit.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) A method for generating an alert when power is disrupted to an electrical outlet, comprising:

mounting a self-contained power disruption alert device to an electrical outlet; and
~~automatically generating an audible alert by the self-contained device when power to the electrical outlet is disrupted;~~

electronically selecting a pre-recorded voice message from one of a plurality of pre-recorded voice messages stored in the device; and

automatically transmitting the selected pre-recorded voice message when power to the electrical outlet is disrupted.

23. (Original) A method according to Claim 22, wherein the mounting step is carried out by mounting the device to a wall panel outlet having a GFI circuit.

24-26 (Canceled)

27. (Original) A method according to Claim 22, further comprising determining the time duration of the power disruption and displaying the determined time duration.

28. (Original) A method according to Claim 27, further comprising resetting a timer and/or clearing a display.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Original) A method according to Claim 22, further comprising generating a visual alert to visually indicate when a power disruption occurs.

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31. (Original) A method according to Claim 22, wherein the alert device has a forward surface with a height and width, each being less than about 3 inches, and a depth that is less than about 1 inch, and wherein the alert device without a battery weighs less than about 8 ounces.

32. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 22, further comprising impairing operation of the electronic circuit ~~disposing of the alert device~~ after a single power disruption occurs and the audible alert is generated to provide a single-use disposable alert device.

33. (Original) A method according to Claim 22, wherein the automatically generating an audible alert comprises delaying generating the alert until power is disrupted greater than a predetermined time duration.

34. (New) A device according to Claim 13, wherein the at least one pre-recorded message is a plurality of different pre-recorded messages, at least one for alerting of a power outage and another at least one alerting of a low battery condition.

35. (New) A device according to Claim 13, wherein the at least one pre-recorded message is a plurality of different pre-recorded messages including a message for longer power outages that is different from the message for a shorter power outage.

36. (New) A device according to Claim 13, wherein the at least one message is interspersed with loud audible signals thereby providing increased impact and noise alerts.

37. (New) A device according to Claim 1, wherein a component in the electronic circuit is impaired or destroyed after a power disruption.

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38. (New) A self-contained power disruption alert device, comprising:
a housing with a plurality of male conductors extending outwardly therefrom, the male conductors sized and configured to enter an electrical wall outlet to be in electrical communication therewith;
an electronic circuit in the housing and configured to respond to a power disruption in the electrical wall outlet;
a battery receiving space disposed on and/or in the housing and sized and configured to hold a battery to be in electrical communication with the electronic circuit to power the electronic circuit;
a speaker in communication with the electronic circuit, wherein, in operation, an audible alert is output by the speaker when power to the electrical wall outlet is disrupted, and
a timer in communication with the electronic circuit, wherein the electronic circuit is configured to prevent transmission of the audible alert for minor power disruptions lasting less than about 5 minutes.

39. (New) A self-contained power disruption alert device, comprising:
a housing with a plurality of male conductors extending outwardly therefrom, the male conductors sized and configured to enter an electrical wall outlet to be in electrical communication therewith;
an electronic circuit in the housing and configured to respond to a power disruption in the electrical wall outlet;
a battery receiving space disposed on and/or in the housing and sized and configured to hold a battery to be in electrical communication with the electronic circuit to power the electronic circuit;
a speaker in communication with the electronic circuit, wherein, in operation, an audible alert is output by the speaker when power to the electrical wall outlet is disrupted;
electronic memory in communication with the electronic circuit configured to store different power outage durations occurring over a desired interval; and

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a user input button in communication with the electronic memory that allows a user to prompt the device for the outage duration/length of each detected outage event.

40. (New) A device according to Claim 39, further comprising a visual alert in communication with the electronic circuit and held by the housing so that the visual alert is externally visible may be configured to present a different visual appearance when more than one event is detected and not cleared from the device's electronic memory.